

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 10/669,654 |
| Confirmation Number | 5580 |
| Filing Date | September 25, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Hideyuki TANAKA |
| Art Unit | 3611 |
| Examiner Name | Tony H. WINNER |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q77627 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| <i>IV</i> | | US 4,715,463 | | 12/29/1987 | Shimizu |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |

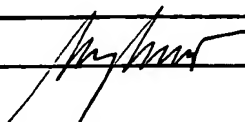
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁴ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| <i>IV</i> | | JP | 2003-312521 | | 11/06/2003 | Mitsubishi Electric Corporation | |
| <i>IV</i> | | DE | 4300365 | A1 | 07/15/1993 | Nissan Motor Company | |
| <i>IV</i> | | EP | 1236638 | A1 | 09/04/2002 | Bosch GMBH Robert | |
| <i>IV</i> | | EP | 1129926 ✓ | A1 | 09/05/2001 | Mitsubishi Electric Corporation | |
| <i>IV</i> | | EP | 1184254 | A2 | 03/06/2002 | Nissan Motor Company | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁴ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <i>IV</i> | | French Preliminary Search Report dated June 10, 2004 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Examiner Signature



Date Considered

9/22/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

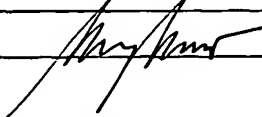
¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | Not Assigned |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | Not Assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | September 25, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Hideyuki TANAKA |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not Assigned |
| Examiner Name | Not Assigned | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q77627 | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| <i>IX</i> | | US 6,450,287 | B1 | 09-17-2002 | Kurishige et al. |
| <i>IX</i> | | US 2002-0125063 | | 09-12-2002 | Kurishige et al. |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation* |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| <i>IX</i> | | JP | 2001-122146 | A | 05-08-2001 | | English Abstract |
| <i>IX</i> | | JP | 2001-239951 | A | 09-04-2001 | | English Abstract |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation* |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered | 9/22/04 |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|---------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. * Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.